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UN ARMY IN NEW POSITIONS Digging In On Fresh Defence Line North Of Seoul

COMMENT

ough Mr Attlee has described the gathering of Commonwealth statesmen which opens in London tomorrow as a meeting, and not a conference — thereby denoting the informality of the proceedings — the meeting comes at a time of grave emergency when, in Mr Nehru's words, big issues are at stake in the world and, indeed, the fate of humanity itself is in the balance.

It is a pity, therefore, that differences should have arisen over the Kashmir issue. It has come to be an unwritten rule of Commonwealth meetings that disputes between members are not discussed in formal session. Yet from the moment when the meeting was announced it was hard to see how some discussion of Indo-Pakistan problems could be avoided.

The statesmen gather at a time of unprecedented danger for all their countries, and as soon as they turn to examine the dangers threatening southern Asia, and the efforts which all members of the Commonwealth can make in the face of these dangers, they are confronted with the knowledge that neither India nor Pakistan can serve the joint security to the full until they compose their own dispute. Kashmir still lies at the root of their differences, and it is not surprising that the Pakistan Premier should want the statesmen, as they review their common interests, to recognise that one of the greatest interests is in helping, if at all possible, to bring nearer a solution for Kashmir.

ment over Kashmir did not solve all matters of dispute between the two Commonwealth countries, but until agreement over Kashmir is reached — or until it is on the way to attainment — little progress can be made in any other field. Kashmir is not to be discussed formally it can at least be discussed informally. What is certain is that if the Kashmir dispute is entirely ignored in London it will go once again before the Security Council of the United Nations where attitudes may be fatally hardened again.

Planned Withdrawals From Imjin River Sector

United Nations troops, dug in on a new defence line north of Seoul, prepared tonight for what might be the fiercest battle of the Korean war.

The Eighth Army had today completely abandoned the Imjin River defence line some 30 miles above the southern capital, the collapse of the First South Korean Division making their positions untenable.

Front line reports said that United Nations troops had abandoned Uibongju, 11 miles north of Seoul, and Chunchon, key junction in the centre of the United Nations defence line across the peninsula.

United Nations troops, fortifying their new positions, had no reliable indication of the Communist strength actually opposing them.

United Nations warplanes yesterday swept the Korean skies in an all-out offensive, smashing and pounding every target visible along the snow-covered battlefield.

Pilots, flying everything up to the latest F-84 Thunder jets, hammered troops, guns, buildings, supply and fuel dumps and transport in 496 sorties.

They had raided 74 enemy-held towns and accounted for more than 300 Communist troops by mid-day. Fires blazed in battered Chorwon, a Communist concentration centre north of the Parallel.

Fighters were out in record numbers, giving close support to the ground forces, while Sabre jets — the world's fastest weapon — roamed the North-West for possible Communist intruders. None were seen.

The second day of the great air offensive began in clear weather at dawn after a night of bombing attacks against targets illuminated with flares, as far north as the Manchurian border.

More than 30 Communist vehicle convoys were damaged.

The east flank of the United

Nations defence line was reported tonight to be falling back under heavy pressure, but details were blacked out by the censors.

Communist forces were known to be attacking the Chunchon area, some 10 miles below the 38th Parallel, where they had earlier been reported to have made some penetrations.

An Eighth Army spokesman described the situation at both ends of the front as serious, but not critical.

ULL PREDICTED

United Nations troops, fortifying their new positions, had no reliable indication of the Communist strength actually opposing them and it was still not clear from front-line reports whether the offensive was being led by Chinese Communists or North Koreans.

An Eighth Army spokesman had said earlier that the troops engaged in the general offensive were predominantly Chinese Communists.

Military sources here predicted that there might be (Continued on Page 4 Col. 3)

Peking Sees Korea As US Manoeuvre

Washington, Jan. 2.

Communist China considers the intervention of the United Nations in Korea not representative of the world organisation but a "manoeuvre engineered by the United States."

That is the word which the Indian Ambassador in Peking, Mr K. Pannikar, conveyed to his Government which in turn gave it to the State Department.

Authoritative sources said that Mr Pannikar was told in Peking that Communist China considered the United Nations action in Korea "something designed by the United States with the acquiescence of 20 or 30 votes which it always controls."

These appeared to be an obvious reference to the fact that Latin-American nations normally side with the United States on controversial questions.

Indian sources here saw no possibility of an early rapprochement between the West and Communist China on the subject of Korea.

Madame Chiang Kai-shek

the United States, and her assistants have been in frequent consultation with the Department on the problem of finding some understanding with Peking.

However, informed sources said that so far they have found no basis on which some understanding could be reached.

Indian officials felt that the sentiment in the United States was such at present that any possible approach to negotiations would be regarded as "softening up" and "giving in" to the Communists.

QUAKES RAVAGE LEEWARDS

Severe Damage Done

Port Of Spain, Jan. 2.

An extended series of violent earthshocks in the Leeward Islands caused heavy destruction in the isles of St. Kitts and Nevis, according to reports received today.

The reports said the buildings housing the local branches of Barclay's Bank of London and the Royal Bank of Canada were destroyed at Basseterre and public utilities suffered severe damage.

They added that St. John's Parish Church in Nevis, was in ruins. A late report by Captain John Sweeney, head of the American disaster relief mission, to his headquarters at San Juan, Puerto Rico, tonight said that every stone building in Nevis was cracked or damaged and those still standing were completely unsafe or a shambles.

There were only a few English and no Americans on Nevis, where the native population is about 15,000.

The earthshocks began on Dec. 26 and culminated on Monday night when 12 shocks were recorded. There were no reports of casualties. —United Press.

Europe In Grip Of Winter

London, Jan. 2.

Winter held much of North-Western Europe in a grip of ice and snow again today while Central Europe and the greater part of the United States enjoyed unseasonable warmth.

In the United States snow and freezing rain pelted the central States of Montana and Dakota. But the weather was comparatively mild from Texas and the Gulf coast north-eastward to the Great Lakes and elsewhere. —Reuter.

Washington, Jan. 2.

The 81st Congress closed its shop today after ramming through three major bills to bolster the United States' armed might and prepare the home front for a possible atomic attack.

The new 82nd Congress takes over tomorrow. —United Press.

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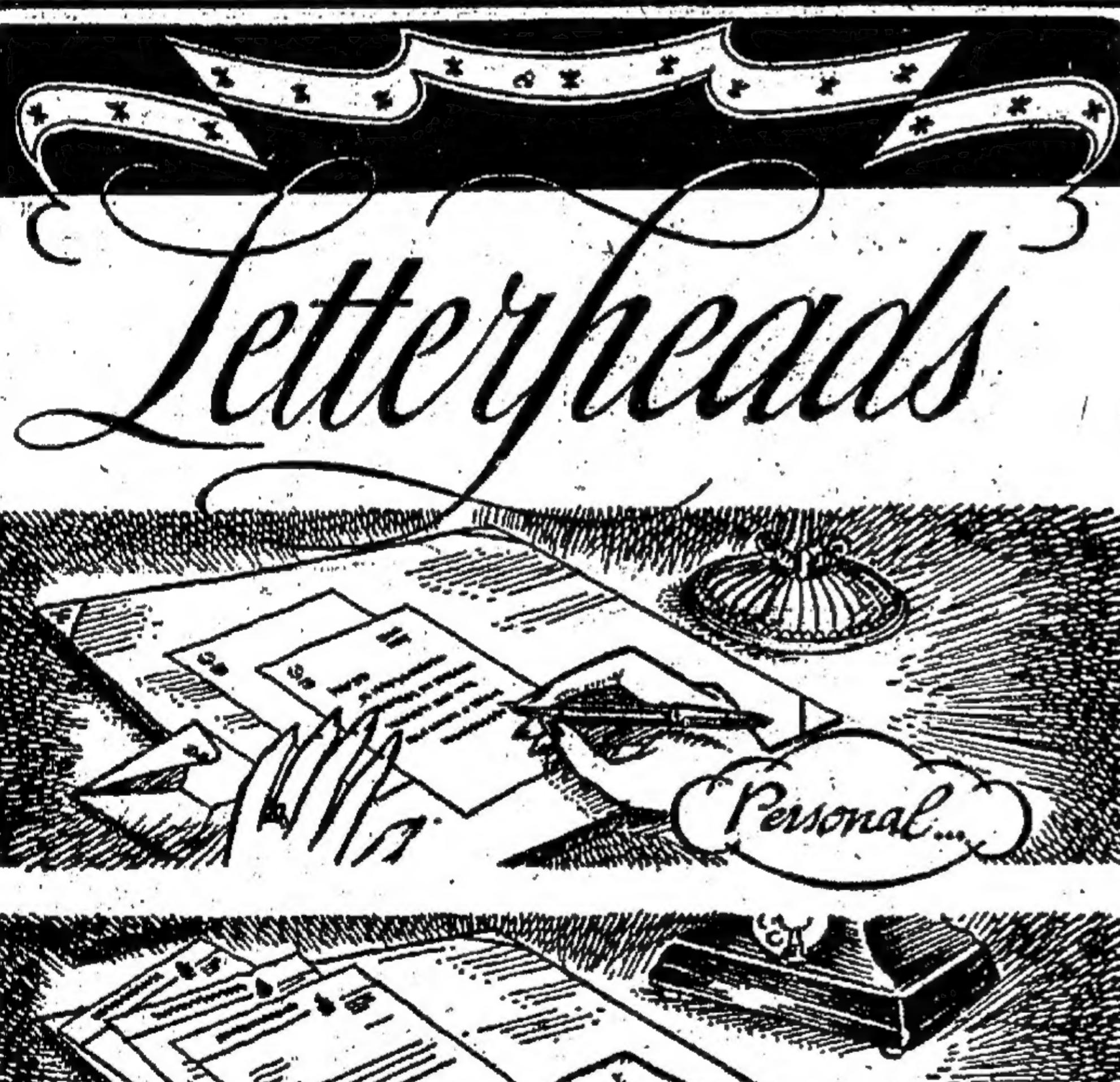
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Football in the circus ring by Wacker's Dogs at the Bertram Mills' Circus at the dress rehearsal which was watched by hundreds of excited school children. The Circus is appearing at Olympia. (Central Press).

POLITICAL COMMITTEE TO DEBATE CHINESE INTERVENTION TODAY

Lake Success, Jan. 2.

The issue of the Chinese Communist intervention in Korea, rendered more urgent by the news of a big offensive, will be debated by the United Nations Political Committee tomorrow.

There are three questions on the agenda:

1.—The intervention of the Chinese People's Republic in Korea.

2.—The Soviet complaint of American aggression against China.

3.—The question of Formosa. The United States and several other countries are expected to press for an urgent consideration of the Chinese Communist intervention.

High American officials were today holding almost continual conversations with British, French and other representatives to prepare for a course of action tomorrow.

The representatives of India and the Arab States were consulted over the week-end on the same subject.

Later today the American and other key delegations are likely to have a clearer idea of the next step to be taken in the Political Committee.

The representatives of the Asian and Arab nations, who sponsored the cease-fire proposal, had talks with Mr Ernest Gross, of the United States, and Mr Jacob Malik, of Russia. Reuter.

MEETING OFF

Lake Success, Jan. 2. The Cease-fire Committee, after meeting for two hours today, decided to meet again at 8.00 p.m. GMT to finish its report.

Because of this meeting the plan for the Asian-Arab meeting for tonight was held in abeyance.—Reuter.

SMALL POWERS' VIEW

Lake Success, Jan. 2. The consensus of small power delegations at the United Nations today was that it was essential to return to normal Charter procedures as soon as possible in dealing with the Chinese situation.

A top Latin American diplomat, also a Security Council representative, said that since the cease-fire, some of the Asian-Arab delegations in the United Nations would issue a formal statement of their own views on the Chinese situation.

Meanwhile, it was learned that constant contact was being maintained among the Latin American and other delegations outside the talks, led by the Asian-Arab group, with the smaller United Powers.—United Press.

Former Premier Turns Friar

Lovere, North Italy, Jan. 2.

A former Maltese deputy Prime Minister, Mr Arthur Colombo, aged 45, pledged himself to a life of complete poverty and humility when he became a Capuchin friar here today.

The ceremony at a Franciscan Monastery on the shores of the Lake of Iseo follows a year spent as a novice. A Doctor of Medicine, he plans when he has finished his theological studies to work in a hospital at a Capuchin Mission in Jhansi, India.

The Capuchin Order are devoted to preaching and missionary work.—Reuter.

KASHMIR TO BE DISCUSSED

Lake Success, Jan. 2.

Senor Antonio Quevedo of Ecuador, January President of the Security Council, said today that the Kashmir question would go before the Council for discussion in the latter part of the month.

There were no plans meeting on the matter Jan. 15 because the chief delegate, Sir Benegal Ramaiah, scheduled to attend the Commonwealth conference in London on Thursday. Senor Quevedo said it would be improper to begin discussion of the question in Sir Benegal's absence. Meanwhile, he intended to discuss the question informally with the heads of other Council delegations hoping for a decision around Jan. 16.

Despite Pakistan's insistence the Council failed to take up the problem in December because several delegations felt that contact between the Indian and Pakistani Prime Ministers at the Commonwealth conference made smooth Council discussions.

However, the failure of the conference to fail to include Kashmir on the agenda determined Pakistan's boycott of the party.—United Press.

EMPIRE DEFENCE PLANS

Despatch Of Troops To Middle East

British Proposal For HK Defence Commitments

Australia, New Zealand and South Africa are likely to be asked to speed up plans for sending forces to the Middle East in the event of war, it was learned here today from a usually reliable source.

This is one of the several defence questions expected to be brought up at the meeting of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers which opens here on Thursday.

South Africa has already promised a substantial contribution to the defence of this area in the event of a war.

Though they have as yet made no definite commitments, it is believed that Australia and New Zealand will be willing to share in Middle East defence as they did in the last war.

Britain would like to see Commonwealth forces in the Middle East even in peacetime, but realises the difficulties this would present to the Commonwealth countries with their small populations and the contribution they are already making in Korea.

Even if it is not possible for the Commonwealth countries to send forces abroad in peacetime they will be asked to have them organised ready to reach the Middle East with the least possible delay if war becomes imminent.

Canada has never before sent troops to the Middle East. It is believed an attempt may be made to encourage her to play a part in that area though it is felt here that she will be reluctant to agree.

DEFENCE OF H.K.

Britain would like to see Australia and New Zealand take over some of her commitments in Malaya and Hong Kong. But proposals in this direction are not so far advanced as the Middle East plans.

The pooling of raw materials will probably be put before the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. Britain would like this to be arranged through the

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Organisation for European Economic Cooperation, but some Commonwealth countries would prefer a separate Commonwealth board or committee to be set up.

The feeling in official circles here is that these two ideas need not confuse the main issue, as if the Commonwealth Prime Ministers are persuaded of the need for more rearmament their Prime Ministers will discuss its implications on their present policies.

South Africa is likely to bring up one of her defence worries—the present unsatisfactory state of communications throughout Africa. She has already had discussions with France and Portugal about this.

Another matter which may be raised is Commonwealth standardisation of equipment. Canada, for instance, is inclined to "tool up" on the United States type of equipment. Some other Commonwealth nations would prefer to concentrate more on the British pattern.

PAKISTAN PREMIER

The British Cabinet, with the Defence Chiefs present part of the time, met today to discuss the final arrangements for the Prime Ministers' Conference.

The British Government was still without news today whether Mr Liaquat Ali Khan,

the Prime Minister of Pakistan, would attend the talks. The latest reports from Karachi said that Mr Liaquat Ali Khan had not altered his stand that the Kashmir dispute between his country and India should be put on the agenda.

In the view of the British Government inter-Dominion disputes are, by convention, not placed on the agenda of the full sessions of such conferences.

It is known that the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, is extremely anxious to see progress towards a settlement of the Kashmir issue.

Informed quarters have suggested that he might take an early opportunity of consulting the other Commonwealth Prime Ministers to see if they could find a solution to the impasse arising out of Pakistan's attitude towards the conference.

All of the principal conference statesmen, except Mr Nehru, and Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, have now reached London.

The latest arrivals tonight were Mr Robert G. Menzies, the Prime Minister of Australia, and Mr Sidney Holland, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, who travelled together from Rome in the same aircraft.

Mr Nehru was due here by air from India tomorrow night.—Reuter.

KARACHI SECRECY

Karachi, Jan. 2. The Pakistan Prime Minister, Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, does not plan to fly to London today, the deadline for departure in time to reach London in time for the opening of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference, an authoritative source here disclosed.

The strictest official secrecy still veils the Prime Minister's intentions towards the Conference, and it is felt to indicate that a final decision on his attendance has not yet been made.

There is some speculation here on whether the opening of the conference, due on Thursday, may be postponed pending a decision by Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, which may depend on a further communication from London.—Reuter.

NEHRU'S PROGRAMME

London, Jan. 2. The Indian Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, will have a crowded programme from the moment he arrives at London Airport tomorrow.

In addition to the daily meetings of the Commonwealth Conference, his social engagements will range from a Buckingham Palace luncheon and receptions held by Mr Clement Attlee and the various Commonwealth High Commissioners in London to a party at India House for Indian students and a soiree arranged by the India League.

On Jan. 12 Mr Nehru is to open a new India club in Craven Street, an old and narrow London thoroughfare which runs down from the Strand, at its junction with Trafalgar Square, to the Thames Embankment.—Reuter.

PAKISTAN VIEWS

Karachi, Jan. 2. Pakistan's Prime Minister Mr Liaquat Ali Khan told the New York Herald Tribune on Dec. 31 that he was prepared to go to London if he found the Prime Ministers of the Commonwealth countries willing to do so.



IT JUST TAKES PRACTICE—Bored with tiresome pastimes like high-diving and water polo, Dolores Marlin and George Wayne indulge in a few acrobatic stunts to while away the time. They claim it's as easy as it looks, provided the girl is light enough and the chap remembers to bring along his cushion—which he'll certainly need.

CONGRESS BATTLE EXPECTED

Washington, Jan. 2. The 82nd United States Congress will meet for the first time tomorrow to face a momentous debate on foreign policy and plans to build up the military strength of the overseas Allies.

Despite reduced majorities in both Houses of Representatives and the Senate, the Administration Democrats are confident that the new Congress will back President Truman in most major foreign policy administration.

The recent speech by the former Republican President, Mr Herbert Hoover, advocating American concentration on Western hemisphere defence, is expected to set off a fierce foreign policy fight.

A conservative, "isolationist" bloc of Republicans in Congress is supporting Mr Hoover's ideas which have already come under attack by Democrat spokesmen.

It is believed that under the pressure of the vast defence plans, the new Congress will be inclined to cut foreign economic aid programmes like the Marshall Plan.

Democrats are also pessimistic about the prospects of much of the "Fair Deal" domestic programme which had a rough handling in the last Congress where the Democrats had a larger majority.

Their Senate majority has been cut from 12 to two and their House majority from 93 to 36.

The 81st Congress adjourned tonight when the House rose. The Senate had risen earlier.—Reuter.

CONTROL PLANS A

FLOP

Washington, Jan. 2. The Economic Stabilisation Administration reported today that the Government's voluntary price control programme was making little progress.

Only a small number of the nation's biggest concerns had reduced their prices to the Dec. 1 levels or had agreed to give advance warning when new price increases were planned.

Senator John Sparkman (Democrat) warned, in the meantime, that the Government's system of allocating scarce materials may be forcing some small businessmen to resort to "gray or black markets".

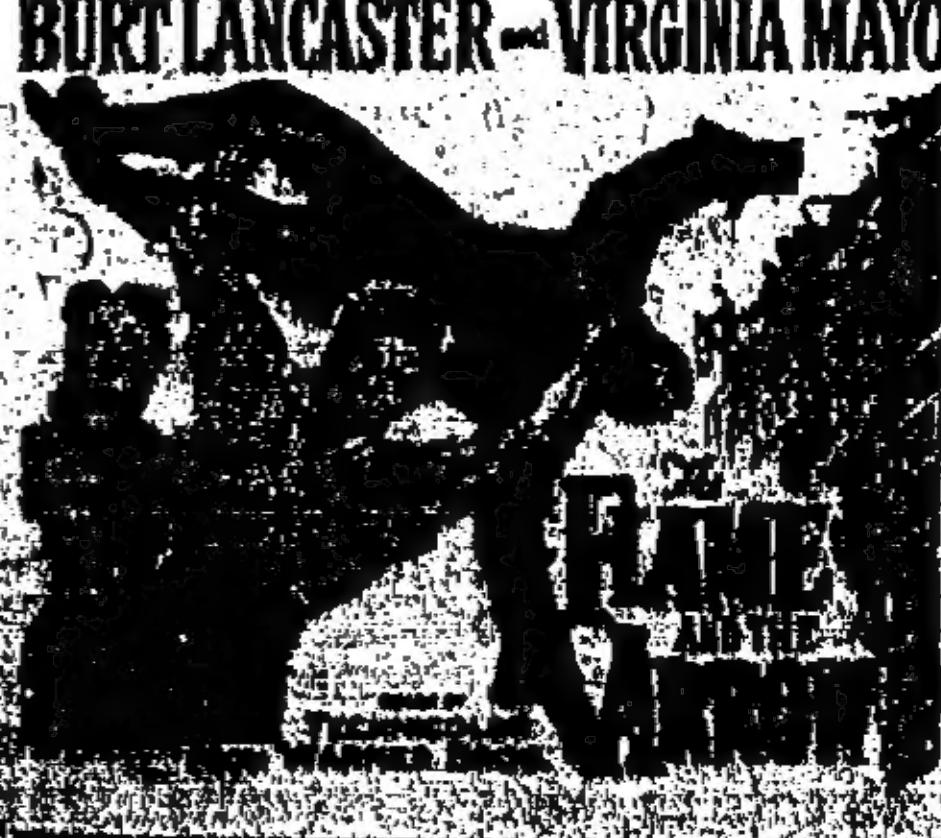
The stabilisation agency followed up its price roll-back request of two weeks ago by asking 250 of the largest companies to give at least seven days' notice of any prospective price increase. So far 50 had promised to do so.

At least one company has increased the price of its shirts, blaming rising cloth prices.—United Press.

Queens

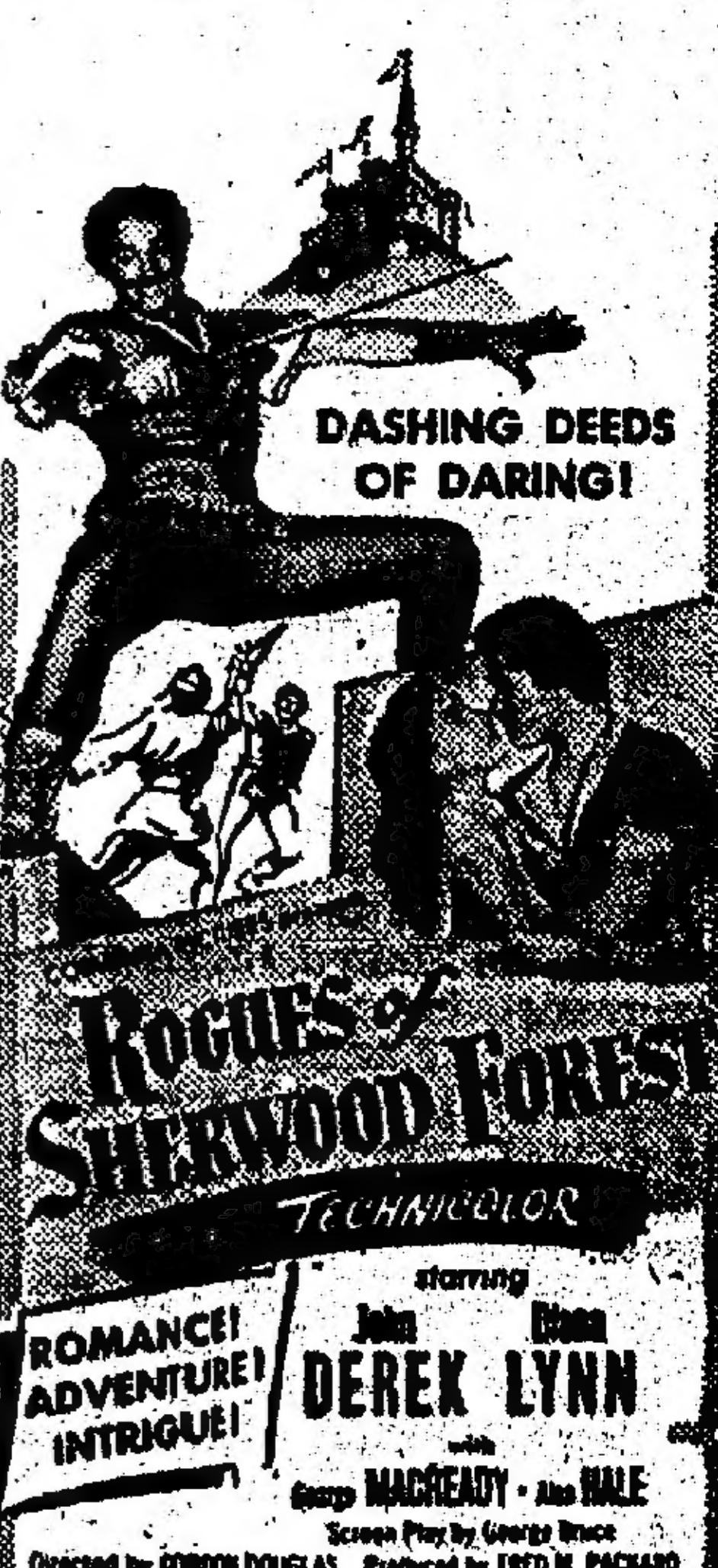
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ATOMIC INFORMATION EXCHANGE



SHE'S THEIR CHOICE—The men of the 182nd Regimental Combat Team of the Massachusetts National Guard voted Edith Roberts, 21, "Miss Federalisation," in Charlestown. Posing with loaded rifles, Edith proves she's a good target for any camera.

Survey Mission On U.S.I.S. Activities In Southeast Asia

Manila, Jan. 2.

A five-member mission of the United States State Department of international news and publications division arrived in Manila today by air in the course of a survey of United States Information Service activities in Southeast Asia.

Head of the mission, Mr Charles Arnot, assistant chief of the division's information programme, said the purpose of the survey is to bring "proper co-ordination, adjustment and co-operation" among all Southeast Asian USIS offices by means of the press, radio and moving picture facilities.

The mission's survey was believed aimed at broadening and unifying the United States anti-Communist information campaign in Southeast Asian countries as part of the intensified drive to check the spread of Redism among the discontented masses.

The mission expects to stay in the Philippines about six weeks. Others in the party are Mr Ralph Buter, audio-visual specialist, Mr Marvin Serkin, editor of the press division of

the Voice of America programme, Miss Dorothy Boyce, editor, and Mr Robert Clarke, writer.—United Press.

United States Expenditure For Defence

Washington, Jan. 2.

A Bill providing expenditure of \$19,899,911,000 for defence was passed by Congress today and sent to President Truman for signing.

It raised to about \$43,000 million the total cash Congress provided this financial year for increased armed strength.—Reuter.

REQUEST REJECTED

Washington, Jan. 2.

The House of Representatives joined the Senate today in rejecting President Truman's request for emergency power to reorganise Government agencies.

It passed and sent back to the Senate a "war powers" measure stripped of the reorganisation proposals. The Bill gives President Truman only the authority to revise defence contracts to ensure essential war production.—Reuter.



Big Three To Consult

Washington, Jan. 2. The United States, Britain and France will begin consultations very soon on another effort to get Russia's agreement to Big Four talks on world problems, the State Department announced today.

The date of the Big Three talks to consider Russia's "disappointing" answer to the Western offer for a meeting has not yet been decided, a Department spokesman said.

In the opinion of informed sources here, the insistence of Russia on German questions dodges the Western offer of broader talks. — United Press.

FIGHTING IN KOREA

(Continued from Page 1)

several days' lull all along the western front while the Communists brought sufficient men and equipment across the Imjin River.

A second Communist column, moving on deserted Seoul from the north-east, was said to have swept through Kapyong, 35 miles from the city.

Retreating United Nations troops left scorched earth behind them, burning every house and all supplies and equipment. They even knocked down the walls of houses and gardens which might afford cover.

United Nations artillery shelled Uijongbu after the withdrawal but it was not known whether the Communists had moved in or by-passed the town.

ADDITIONAL THREAT

Allied rear-guards threatened by Chinese Communist penetration fell back throughout the day but no official information was yet available on the extent of the withdrawal.

The first Communist armour since the offensive began on New Year's Eve was reported by pilots who destroyed two tanks.

General MacArthur stated that an additional threat faced the United Nations forces following indications that the great Chinese Communist forces released by the evacuation of Hungnam, in the North-East, had now been moved to the central front.

He said that the initial Communist attack against Seoul was pressed "with a complete disregard for his losses, which have been extremely heavy."—Reuter.

PLANNED WITHDRAWAL

Tokyo, Jan. 3. The withdrawing Eighth Army forces abandoned Uijongbu, 11 miles north of Seoul, on Wednesday and it was believed that the town has been occupied by Chinese troops.

United Press correspondent Gene Symonds reported from Seoul that Uijongbu, which lies along the highway to the South Korean capital leading from Yonchon, has been given up to Communist forces according to plan.

Symonds said it was highly probable that Chinese forces occupied the town during the night which would place them only 11 miles from the rapidly emptying South Korean capital.—United Press.

NEW ATTACK

With 24th Division, Jan. 3. Communist troops hit the 24th Infantry Division's new defence line in two places just before dawn on Wednesday. It was not immediately apparent whether this was the beginning of an all-out offensive comparative to New Year's Eve attack.—United Press.

America Shortly To Discuss With States Other Than Britain Statement On Russia

Washington, Jan. 2.

The United States indicated today that it might shortly exchange atomic information and personnel with other States than Britain and Canada.

Mr Gordon Dean, Chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission, said that legislation would be placed before Congress in about two months' time to change conditions for the exchange of such information with Britain and other Allies where this is to America's advantage.

Recommendations had not yet been crystallised on this point, he told a press conference.

In answer to a question, Mr Dean said, "Russia does have" the atomic bomb.

Exchange of atomic information between the United States and Britain was restricted after passage of the McMahon Act in 1946. This placed atomic control under the civilian authority of the Atomic Energy Commission instead of under the military as before.

Mr Dean said that he did not think that the proposed legislation would deal only with the United Kingdom and Canada.

It was possible to draft legislation giving "rather wide discretion" to exchange information where it was to the advantage of the United States, he added.

He said that the legislation might also provide for the exchange of personnel, adding, "We may want to exchange materials as well as information".

"We are rather rigidly controlled at present by the (McMahon) Act and there are situations in which it would be to the advantage of the United States to exchange."

Mr Dean declined to give any figures or indication of the number of bombs in the United States' stockpile.

Reporters pressed him to say whether he thought the United States had sufficient atom bombs for use on strategic targets.

He replied, "If we worry, it is not about the number of bombs we have, but how we can get more."—Reuter.

ATOMIC ENERGY PILE

Ottawa, Jan. 2. The Government today approved the construction of a \$30,000,000 atomic energy pile designed to be vastly more powerful than the two others Canada already has.

The giant furnace will assure Canada of an adequate supply of plutonium, essential nuclear fuel, for the foreseeable future.

The pile will be built at the Government's atomic energy establishment at Chalk River, Ontario, and construction is expected to start late this summer.

The new atomic furnace will enable Canada to continue uninterrupted production of radioactive isotopes. Canada has done no direct work on atomic weapons since the end of World War II.

If, in their research on peacetime applications of atomic energy the Canadians should stumble on knowledge useful in armament, the information would be turned over to the United States and Britain under the three-power atomic co-operation treaty.

The new furnace will use heavy water to slow activity to manageable speeds.—United Press.

CHOOSING SITE FOR NEXT UN MEETING

New York, Jan. 2.

Mr Andrew Cordier, United Nations Assistant Secretary General, left for Paris tonight aboard an Air France plane to select the site of the 1951 session of the General Assembly.

Mr Cordier said no definite decision had yet been taken where the Assembly would be held, but he added that it was more likely Paris would be chosen. The Palais de Chaillot, where the 1948 session was held, would be a likely spot for the conference.

Mr Cordier will stay in Paris overnight and leave on Thursday for Geneva, where he expects to meet the Secretary-General, Mr Trygve Lie, who is on his way from Norway. The two men are expected to study the possibility of holding the session in Geneva, but Mr Cordier indicated that the former League of Nations Palace there was too overcrowded to allow an Assembly session to be held.

After three or four days in Geneva, Mr Lie and Mr Cordier will return to Paris. Mr Cordier said he would also visit London during his European trip. The decision to hold the 1951 session in Europe was voted last month by the Assembly but the Secretary-General will decide on the site.—United Press.

Israel Able To Defend Freedom

Jerusalem, Jan. 2. The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr David Ben-Gurion, said tonight that Israel would be able to defend her independence, if her neighbours attempted an invasion during the confusion of a world conflagration.

Addressing the Knesset (the Israeli Parliament), Mr Ben-Gurion said that in the present world situation Israel's problem was not only the wider question of defence but mainly whether her neighbours, rearming, would not attempt to attack her.

"I do not hesitate to say that Israel will be able to defend her independence in the case of a local conflict," Mr Ben-Gurion stated.

The Premier's speech was delivered when he introduced the Civilian Defence Bill.—Reuter.

MYSTERY OF THE COSMIC RAYS MAY YET BE SOLVED

Washington, Jan. 2.

The mystery of where cosmic rays come from may be solved. The National Geographic Society reported strong evidence that the energy packed particles originate not in the far reaches of the outer space, as previously supposed, but in the sun.

If this is confirmed it means that in addition to being the nuclear power house that supplies the earth with heat and light, the sun also is a gigantic arsenal of sub-atomic projectiles which bombard the earth in a never ending barrage.

These projectiles apparently are fragments of atoms dismembered by the sun's terrific heat and hurled into space at energies running into thousands of millions of electron volts.

The origin of cosmic rays, many of them individually vastly more energetic than the exploding atoms of atom bombs, has puzzled science since their discovery early in this century. Though too diffuse to be detected on earth except by sensitive instruments, cosmic rays provide science with clues to atomic structure which ultimately may contribute to the mastery of nuclear energy. Evidence

that they come from the sun was found in a research conducted "at the top of the atmosphere" in Canada by the National Geographic and the Bartol Research Foundation of Philadelphia's Franklin Institute.

Last year and this, scientists directed by Dr. Martin Pomerantz, Bartol physicist, sent an instrument carrying balloons more than 20 miles into the sky above the Hudson Bay outpost of Fort Churchill. Other investigators have theorised that the sub-atomic particles which crash night and day into the earth's atmosphere might be the result of a cosmic cataclysm from which our universe ultimately emerged."

The National Geographic added, "Others had them hurtling from the vast void of infinity. A third belief is, they might be generated by the interplay of magnetic fields existing in the stars and nebulae."

But data recorded by his high soaring instruments, Pomerantz reported strongly suggest that the sun may be the source of virtually all cosmic radiation reaching the earth." Pomerantz discovered that a violent eruption which marred the sun's face on May 10, 1949, was followed 19 hours later by a 15 percent increase in the number of cosmic particles in the earth's atmosphere at altitudes between 95,000 and 100,000 feet. Simultaneously, radar receivers at Cornell University's radio astronomy observatory recorded unusually high intensity in radio signals which emanate continually from the sun.—United Press.

INDONESIA PROVIDES A SHOCK

Djakarta, Jan. 2.

The Indonesian Cabinet has agreed "in principle" to annul the statute which established the Netherlands-Indonesian Union, the Aneta news agency reported here today, quoting well-informed circles.

The decision was taken after the failure of the recent Hague talks between the two nations on the future of Western New Guinea.

The Indonesian Cabinet was meeting today to hear the report of the Foreign Minister, Dr. Mohammed Roem, on the failure of the New Guinea talks.

Some quarters here thought that the Union statute, which came into force in November, 1949, might be difficult to annul because it is registered with the United Nations.

Well-informed circles told the Aneta news agency, however, that the Union would not be valid if one of the parties no longer subscribed voluntarily.

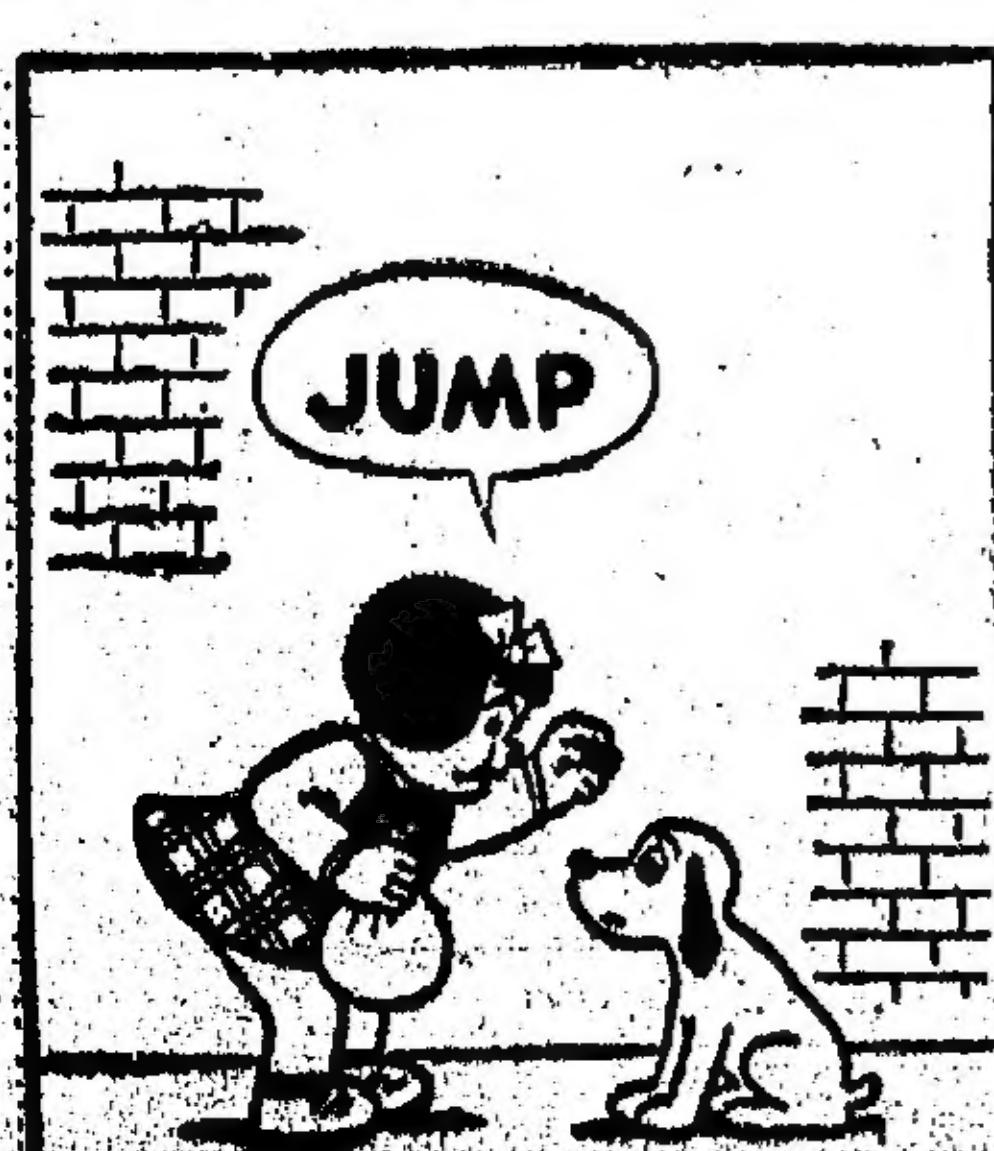
Should the Government decide to annul the statute it would only be necessary for its representative at Lake Success to inform the United Nations of this decision, these circles said.

They added that if the Union were abolished the office of the High Commissioner would be closed and replaced by Embassies.

A new treaty providing for consulates would also have to be concluded.—Reuter.

NANCY

Selective Service



Priests Seized In Wuchow

Maryknoll, Jan. 2.

Maryknoll fathers said today that six more of their missionaries have been arrested by the Chinese Communists.

Father Albert Nevins said the arrests were reported to the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America's Headquarters here in a cable from Reverend William Kupfer, the Society's Superior in Hongkong.

The Society had no details but it was presumed that the six were charged with "alleged connection with imperialism." All six were stationed in the Wuchow Diocese in South China.—United Press.



Whirlwind Tour By Eisenhower

London, Jan. 2.

General Dwight Eisenhower will make a whirlwind tour of Atlantic Pact nation capitals almost as soon as he arrives in Europe as Supreme Commander this week, it was learned today from a usually reliable source. He will fly from the United States direct to Paris on January 4 or 5.

When he finishes his tour to the capitals in two or three weeks he will return to America to report to the Atlantic Pact Headquarters. No decision has yet been reached about his ultimate headquarters in Europe.—Reuter.

PLEDGE BY BRITAIN

London, Jan. 2.

Britain today formally pledged herself to place her troops on the Continent under the command of General Dwight Eisenhower when he sets up his Supreme Command Headquarters in Europe, it was learned from an authoritative source tonight.

It is understood that the troops concerned are those in Germany, Austria and Trieste.—Reuter.

English Language Leads World

Washington, Jan. 2. English has become the world's leading language, spoken by an estimated 260 million people, notes the National Geographic Society.

Hindustani ranks next, with 160 million followers; then Russian with about 145 million, and Spanish, 115 million.

The 400 million Chinese speak nine major Chinese dialects, many of which are unfamiliar out of their own districts.—United Press.

Envoy Decorated

Belgrade, Jan. 2.

The Yugoslav President of the Constituent Assembly, Mr. Ivan Ribar, today decorated the retiring Egyptian Minister, Ahmed Fathi el Akkad Bey, with the Order of the People's Banner for "services rendered to the Yugoslav people."—Reuter.

By Ernie Bushmiller



Gen. Walker Buried In Hero's Tomb

Washington, Jan. 2.

The body of Lieutenant General Walton Walker was committed to a hero's tomb in the Arlington National Cemetery on Tuesday.

The last full military rites a grateful nation bestows on its honoured soldier dead were given the United States Eighth Army commander who was killed in an accident while directing bloody battles in Korea.

At the funeral were represented the nation's military leaders, among them General George Marshall and General Dwight Eisenhower.—United Press.

When there's **bif**
I needn't use my fist!



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ENGLAND HAD A LEAN YEAR IN BOXING

Brighter Hopes For 1951

By FREDDIE MILLS

Well, another year of boxing is over, and so far as England is concerned I am afraid that it has been a year of disappointments.

I started the ball rolling by losing the World Cruiser-weight Crown to Joey Maxim.

Our next big disappointment was undoubtedly in the reverses Bruce Woodcock sustained; but here at least we have the satisfaction of knowing that our new heavyweight champion is our most promising young one for a long time.

Looking back on my fight, there is no doubt that Joey was the better man. On the other hand, I think I may claim that I was unlucky in the first two rounds. Round one was about halfway through when I caught Joey a terrific left hook. He was in real trouble, but he held on so tightly that I did not have the opportunity to finish him off, as I still think I could. Round two was identical, and again I lost the opportunity. Then came round three. I was confident—over-confident perhaps—and this, I think, made me relax just that much too much. You cannot do it with safety at any time, and certainly not against Americans of Joey's calibre. "Wham" it came, a really devastating uppercut, and I was going back in a complete daze, while in came those short-crisp punches, which were his speciality. After that I did not win a round, and when in the sixth Maxim started once more getting home those pile drivers to the face, it was the beginning of the end. Well, that's the way the fight game goes and I am only sorry I could not have held the title for England for another year.

Our other English world title went when Terry Allen, the flyweight, lost to Dado Marino. I was really surprised at this result, for Dado had lost twice in England a year or two ago and, frankly, I did not expect it. At the time I wondered whether the venue (Honolulu) had anything to do with it. There is no doubt that climatic differences do have an effect on a boxer, and I think the result might well have been different if the contest had been in England. However, results and only results count.

TIME FOR TRAINING

Now let us have a look at the future. 1951, I think, must be used by us as a year for building up our new and future champions. Taking the heavyweight position first, I shall be quite relieved if Gardner does not have a top-line American first during the year. Previously I had stated that I should like to see him get some practice against the German, Rint-Tein-Hof, but of recent days I have had news from Germany that their man is fading. In this case, why not a fight against the Austrian, Jo Weigen, either non-title, or for the European heavyweight? Then, later on, could come one or two fights against carefully selected Americans. Johnny Williams I hope to see lay off for several months; and it is too early yet to make any plans for our other heavyweight prospect, John Scott, who is a recent addition to the professional ranks.

For Don Cockell, the light heavyweight champ, I should like to see a fairly quiet part for most of the year. He certainly should have some more fights before thinking of meeting Maxim.

Franklin, our middleweight king, is undoubtedly in our thoughts forward, but I would like to

THE GAMBOLS



What Did Football Produce In 1950?

By ARCHIE QUICK

Standing on the threshold of a new year, what do we find football produced in 1950?

First of all—headaches for the selectors in all countries. The England side has been changed and changed in an endeavour to obtain a winning combination—and Jugoslavia came and drew.

Scotland went one worse, and got defeated by Austria, while Ireland have had cricket scores run up against them. The turn of the year finds the English and Scottish selections still undecided about their XI's for the big International at Wembley, but at least they have until April to think it over.

TEAM OF THE YEAR

Not because they are top of Division One do I class Middlesbrough as the team of the year. I place them first because of their consistency, as compared with the Spurs' flashes of sheer brilliance. Wilf Mannion is of course the star of Middlesbrough, but it is by no means a one-man team. McCrae has improved out of all knowledge since he left Charlton, and his brother Scot McKinnon is not to be recognised with the player who performed only indifferently at Brentford. Ugolini is a good goalkeeper and Bell and Robinson are defenders on the fringe of the England team. Welding them together is David Jack, as canny a manager as he was a footballer.

It is a remarkable thing that Middlesbrough, for all their years in Division One, have never won the League Championship and have never even reached the semi-final stage of the FA Cup. They should do one or the other this year.

INDIVIDUAL STAR

No individual star has shot to the forefront unless it is Eddie Baily, and though he has

Mackie Wins

Golf Event

Mr J. D. Mackie (6) who returned a 72 net which gave him a total of 36 points, won the Stapleford Competition played at Fanling over the New Year's holidays.

The competitions for next week-end will be Captain's Cup Qualifying Round on the Old and New Courses and the 1st and 2nd Rounds Junior Championship on Sunday.

ARMY BOXING

The following were the results of Army Boxing Team Championship matches which took place on December 19 and December 29:

1st Bn R. Leics, 19 points; 27 HAA Regt RA, 14 points; K.S.L.I., 17 points; 1st Bn R. Wilts, 15 points.

Frank Banner, the other Australian, finished last.—Reuter.

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

London, Jan. 2. The following were the results of football games played today:

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

DIVISION "A"

Ardleontians	v	Rangers
Dundee	2	Morton
East Fife	v	Motherwell
Hibernians	6	Aberdeen
Partick Thistle	v	Falkirk
St Mirren	1	Hearts
Third Lanark	1	Clyde

DIVISION "B"

Dumbarton	1	Cowdenbeath
Dunfermline	v	Albion Rovers
Forfar Ath.	v	Queen O'South
Hamilton Acad.	0	Queens Park
Kilmarnock	2	Dundee United
Stenhousemuir	3	Ayr United
Stirling Albion	4	Arbroath
St Johnstone	v	Alloa Athletic

* postponed.—Reuter.

Victoria All Set To Win Sheffield Game

Melbourne, Jan. 2. Victoria (271 runs) appear all set for a clear-cut win over South Australia (93 and 119 for seven) in their Sheffield Shield match here.

Victoria continued their first innings today from the overnight score of 181 runs for the loss of six wickets and Lindsay Hassett, Australia's captain, then 54 runs not out, reached 69 runs.

Sam Loxton, whose four wickets for 27 runs was chiefly responsible for South Australia's cheap dismissal, scored 51 runs today while Sculley was the best of the South Australian bowlers with four wickets for 70 runs.—Reuter.

"Accidentals" XI

The following will represent the "Accidentals" in a hockey match against the Royal Air Force at Sooknupoo today, bully off 3.30 p.m.: BQMS Brierly, Rev. Thomas, Capt. Seaton, Capt. Steward-Cox, Capt. Delme-Murray, Major Garrett, Major Lambie, Pte Biggerstaff, Capt. Livermore, W. O. II Firth, Cpl. Boyd.

Reserves: Lt Boatwright and Sgt. Long.

Umpire: Sgt. Sellwood.

Colours: Red and White; players to bring own white shorts, red and white stockings as well as sticks.

PRO RACE WON IN RECORD TIME

Edinburgh, Jan. 2. Geoffrey Harrington, 25-year-old engineering factory employee from Darlaston, near Walsall, today won the 130-yard handicap—the Blue Riband of professional running—in the record time of 11.83 seconds at the Powderhall meeting here.

Harrington, who was entered from Brownhill, near Birmingham, and was running under his own name, started off seven and a half yards. He was a hot favourite at 7 to 1 for the prize of £150 and a gold medal after defeating the overnight favourite, E. Cummins, of Australia, in the Cross-ties.

Frank Banner, the other Australian, finished last.—Reuter.

Third Interport Hockey Trial

The third interport hockey trial will be held at the Navy ground, King's Park on Sunday, January 7 at 10 a.m.

The following have been selected to take part in the trial:

Whites: A. Ponniah (University), A. L. Nery (Recreio), J. B. Gonsalves (Recreio), A. A. Remedios (Recreio), W. Reed (Recreio), Baghat Singh (Argonauts), Major Lambie (Army), L/Cpl. Mackenzie (Army), L/Cpl. Gardner (Army), R. Collaco (Recreio), Brown (RAF).

Colours: J. C. Koh (Nomads), Capt. Stubbs (Army), F/Lt. Wilson (RAF), Capt. Dudley (Army), G. Salter (Argonauts), McMillen (RAF), Peter Rull (Argonauts), S. Fowler (HKHC), A. A. Marques (Recreio), B. Xavier (Argonauts).

Reserves: U. B. Souza (Thunderbolts), M. Yusuf (Thunderbolts), Bowell (Argonauts), J. Winter (RAF), Fraser (HKHC), L. Xavier (Argonauts).

The Churchill Story: 12th Instalment

A DARING SCHEME

MILLIONS of men marched and met and clashed and dug-in, so that from the North Sea to Switzerland the rival armies mouldered in trench-warfare.

To Churchill, once a cavalryman and now a seaman, it must have appeared doubly clear that the deadlock should be broken by attacks on or round the flanks of the German strength; the method, by sea power.

It happened that the two events which did most to tumble him from the Admiralty and send him for the first time into the political desert, were battles designed to attack those flanks—the defence of Antwerp, and the Dardanelles venture.

In the first he was personally in action and under fire again. In the second he did much of the original planning.

How the First Lord of the Admiralty, wearing his favourite rig of two wars, the uniform of Trinity House, came to be handling personally the equivalent off an Army Corps against the Germans at Antwerp is almost an unbelievably strange story—but it is completely typical of the Churchill of the South African railway train and the Churchill of the siege of Sidney-street.

Under Attack

BY October 2, 1914, with Paris safe from the German avalanche and the lines about as permanent as they were to be for the next four years, Antwerp was still under attack.

That night Churchill set off to Dunkirk where his pet, the Royal Naval Air Service, ran a diversionary circus.

He was recalled soon after his train left Victoria. News had come that the Belgians intended to surrender Antwerp.

With Kitchener's agreement Churchill, already bound for Dunkirk, decided to go to Antwerp to see what could be done to save it.

His arrival on the afternoon of October 3 was described by an American journalist like this:

Hotel Arrival

A BIG drab-coloured touring car filled with British naval officers drove down the Place de Mer, its horn sounding a hoarse warning, took the turn into the March-aux-Souliers on two wheels, and drew up in front of the hotel.

"Before the car had fairly come to a stop the door of the tonneau was thrown violently open and out jumped a smooth-faced, sandy-haired, stoop-shouldered, youthful-looking man in undress Trinity House uniform... As he charged into the crowded lobby he flung his arms out in a nervous characteristic gesture, as though pushing his way through a crowd.

"It was a most spectacular entrance, and reminded me for all the world of a scene in a melodrama where the hero dashes up bare-headed on a foam-flecked horse and saves the heroine, or the old home-stead, or the family fortune as the case may be."

To Britons this picture of Churchill about to persuade the King of the Belgians to fight on will remind them more seriously of another—the plane trip he made 26 years later to persuade France to carry on the battle, when his eloquence, his personality, his broken-voiced appeal made a lasting impression on his hearers.

Fought On

THE Belgians agreed, faced with this dynamic bolt in blue uniform, to fight on a little longer. Kitchener sent marines—and the next day Churchill went up the line with them and watched German soldiers creeping forward through the streets under machine-gun fire.

Infantry from Britain and France and two naval brigades arrived to stiffen the Belgians.

"I felt it my duty to see the matter through," wrote Churchill, and he telegraphed his resignation as First Lord to London.

By Colin Frame

How quickly the smell of powder, the thrill of action had reassured its old appeal for Churchill so that he thought for the moment of nothing but the battle in hand.

Needed At Home

KITCHENER thought highly of ex-Lieutenant Churchill's generalship at Antwerp. He offered to put him in complete command and make him a Lieutenant-General if Asquith would accept the resignation.

But Asquith wanted him home.

Sir Ian Hamilton, describing the troops and their practically self-appointed commander, wrote: "Churchill handles them as though he were Napoleon and they the Old Guard."

On October 6 he handed over to Sir Henry Rawlinson and left for London.

The city fell—but its defence had held five German divisions for five days longer than expected and the effect upon the war was, many historians have suggested, the saving of the Channel ports.

Criticism

CHURCHILL returned to face a barrage of criticism. What on earth was the First Lord doing leading a land battle? And look at the casualties! Later in October Churchill had a long interview with Asquith. Again he was asked to be relieved of office and given some military command.

"He declared," wrote Asquith in his diary, "that a political career was nothing to him in comparison with military glory."

But Churchill returned to the Admiralty and shared round-the-clock duties with Lord Fisher, now back as First Sea Lord.

Fisher, then 74, liked early rising. Churchill did not—nor does he now. Fisher wrote notes in green pencil, Churchill (Hugh Martin recalls in his biography "Battle"; published by Samson Low Marston Ltd.) wrote in red ink.

'Port' And 'Starboard'

THEY called themselves Port and Starboard, and they changed the morning watch at four, when Fisher awoke and Churchill went to bed.

On many things they were agreed. But Fisher's pet scheme to overcome the deadlock in the field was to force the Baltic and land troops on the German coast.

Churchill, however, favoured forcing the Dardanelles and taking Constantinople—a means of obliterating Turkey, neutralising the Balkans, helping Russia and attacking what, in the last war, he called "the soft under-belly" of the German power.

If this plan had been adopted in November, 1914, when he first put it forward, there is no doubt, on the evidence now available, that it would have succeeded.

The Turks had no ammunition, no modern guns and a few old mines protecting the Dardanelles.

But when the attack did go in the next year it failed.

Churchill maintained as he left the Admiralty that the strategy was sound, the plan reasonably sound, but that it was carried out faint-heartedly and by means now dubbed "too little, too late."

The naval attack of March 18, for which Churchill was primarily responsible, was broken off just as (the Turks later admitted) it was on the point of success. Lord Fisher refused to back Churchill's order that it should be pressed home.

The Navy awaited the Army while Churchill fumed for a month. The Turks, who could hardly believe their luck, had meanwhile reinforced, re-equipped and wired the Gallipoli peninsula.

But the mind of Marlborough's son was made up. In the month of his 61st birthday he put on knelt and went to the war his sixth campaign.

Meanwhile, the friendship between old Fisher and the young First Lord had reached breaking point. Fisher, never so ardent for the Dardanelles, wanted the ships nearer home.

Walked Out

THE brilliant but erratic old sea dog, whose resignations were handed out like broadsides, finally quitted.

He walked out of the Admiralty and refused to enter it again.

Fisher's resignation, lack of success in the land war, shortage of shells, losses at sea, the fateful words of Antwerp and the Dardanelles (taunts of political opponents for the next decade) brought about a Coalition, and Churchill's political downfall.

He and his friend, F. E. Smith, had worked together for some time with the object of forming a Coalition.

Tories had never forgiven Churchill his change to the Liberals. Now, as they joined the Government, with military affairs going badly for him, they had their revenge.

Mr Asquith contemplated giving him a chance—"But I will not," Churchill wrote to him, "take any office except a military department and if that is not convenient I hope I may be found employment in the field."

By May 26, 1915, Churchill was Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, but he had a seat in the Cabinet and on the War Council. A J. Balfour, his old political enemy, took his place at the Admiralty.

At that point Churchill described himself as finished—"finished in all that I care for—the waging of war; the defeat of the Germans."

He still wrote memoranda for his colleagues. But he pined at his inactivity.

By November, 1915, he had had enough. "I do not feel able in times like these to remain in well-paid inactivity," he wrote to Asquith. His regiment was in France. He placed himself at the disposal of the Army. He prepared his last speech to the House.

That speech—the scene is graphically described by an early Churchill biographer, "Ephesian"—was one of the best a packed House ever heard him make. With gentle irony he announced he was taking "an alternative form of service to which no exception can be taken and with which I am perfectly content."

No one who listened, no one who watched his familiar gestures as he spoke, could say whether they would ever see him again. He was bound for the trenches.

Some of the words he spoke were to echo comfortingly many years later in a yet more terrible war:

"We are passing through a bad time now," he said, "and it will probably be worse before it is better, but that it will be better if we only endure and persevere I have no doubt whatever... Without winning any sensational victories we may win this war."

"A Tragedy"

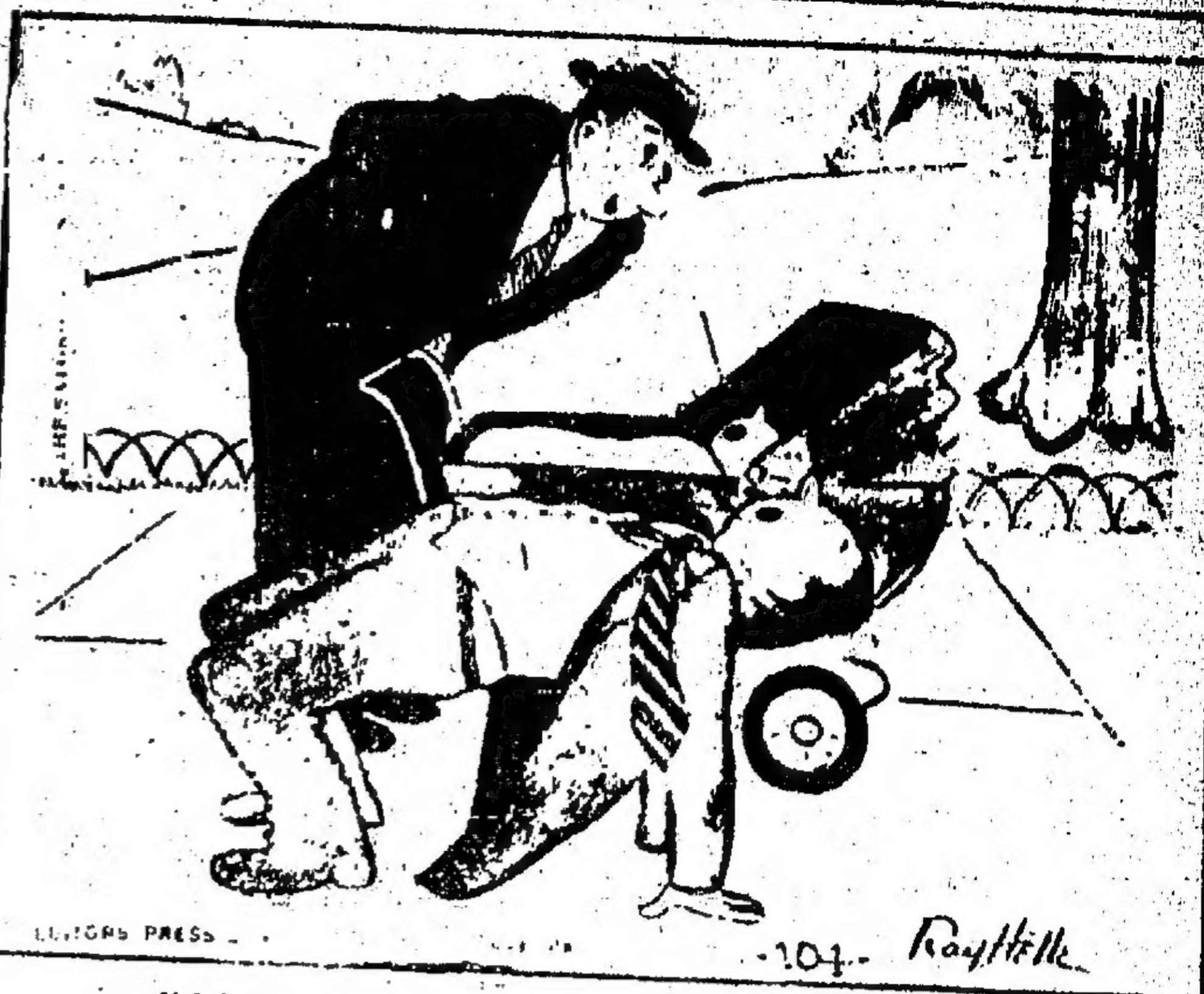
HE passed from the Parliamentary scene, to which for fifteen years he had brought such colour and life, with compliments from party leaders ringing in his ears.

"He has the defects of his qualities," said Bonar Law, "and as his qualities are large the shadow they throw is fairly large also... in mental power and vital force he is one of the foremost men in our country."

T. P. O'Connor, first Editor of "The Star" and later Father of the House, called Churchill's departure a national tragedy.

But the mind of Marlborough's son was made up. In the month of his 61st birthday he put on knelt and went to the war his sixth campaign.

(MORE TOMORROW)



FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Cost Of Utility Wool Cloths Are To Be Increased

There are to be further increases in clothing prices this year. The Board of Trade announced that from Feb. 1 manufacturers' maximum prices for utility wool cloths will be advanced as follows:

Wool cloths—30 per cent;

Worsted cloths and worsted-rayon blend cloths—40 per cent;

Wool canvas interlinings—25 per cent. (except for one cloth which goes up 50 per cent).

There are some of the biggest increases in cloth prices since the utility scheme was introduced. The Board of Trade said: "They take account of the very considerable rise in the price of raw wool, particularly since August."

RETAIL PRICE CHANGES

It will be some months before the higher prices are reflected in the charges for made-up goods such as coats, suits, costumes, jackets and skirts. Trade leaders estimate that retail prices will rise between 10 and 15 per cent. The actual prices will not be known until they have been fixed by the Board of Trade.

Many tailoring firms have good stocks of cloths and there will be considerable quantities of goods available at the old prices. The Board of Trade points out that the higher prices apply only to new cloths reaching the shops after Feb. 1.

STANDARD BRIDGE

By M. Harrison-Gray

Dealer: South Game all

N.
K Q 10
10 9 7 5
8 2 4 3
K 6

W.
5
Q 8 4
A K O J 2
J 10 8 2

E.
8 6 4 2
3
10 9 6 5
A 5 4 3

S.
A J 9 7 3
A K J 6 2
Q 9 7

South's downfall was due to misguided cunning. West bid Two Diamonds over his One Spade opening. North Two Spades, East Three Diamonds and South, anxious to conceal his distribution, jumped to Four Spades which was passed out. South could anticipate being forced, with no certainty that North had four Spades. A bid of Four Hearts would have given North a choice of two game contracts.

The play went as follows:

trick 1—W. Ruffed with 4J

2—W. led to Q A. East wisely

refusing to trump. 5—W.

ruffed with 4A. 6—W. led to South's Q A. 7—W. ruffed with 4A.

8—W. led to South's Q A. 9—W. ruffed with 4A.

10—W. led to South's Q A. 11—W. ruffed with 4A.

12—W. led to South's Q A. 13—W. ruffed with 4A.

14—W. led to South's Q A. 15—W. ruffed with 4A.

16—W. led to South's Q A. 17—W. ruffed with 4A.

18—W. led to South's Q A. 19—W. ruffed with 4A.

20—W. led to South's Q A. 21—W. ruffed with 4A.

22—W. led to South's Q A. 23—W. ruffed with 4A.

24—W. led to South's Q A. 25—W. ruffed with 4A.

26—W. led to South's Q A. 27—W. ruffed with 4A.

28—W. led to South's Q A. 29—W. ruffed with 4A.

30—W. led to South's Q A. 31—W. ruffed with 4A.

32—W. led to South's Q A. 33—W. ruffed with 4A.

34—W. led to South's Q A. 35—W. ruffed with 4A.

36—W. led to South's Q A. 37—W. ruffed with 4A.

38—W. led to South's Q A. 39—W. ruffed with 4A.

40—W. led to South's Q A. 41—W. ruffed with 4A.

42—W. led to South's Q A. 43—W. ruffed with 4A.

44—W. led to South's Q A. 45—W. ruffed with 4A.

46—W. led to South's Q A. 47—W. ruffed with 4A.

48—W. led to South's Q A. 49—W. ruffed with 4A.

50—W. led to South's Q A. 51—W. ruffed with 4A.

52—W. led to South's Q A. 53—W. ruffed with 4A.

54—W. led to South's Q A. 55—W. ruffed with 4A.

56—W. led to South's Q A. 57—W. ruffed with 4A.

58—W. led to South's Q A. 59—W. ruffed with 4A.

60—W. led to South's Q A. 61—W. ruffed with 4A.

62—W. led to South's Q A. 63—W. ruffed with 4A.

64—W. led to South's Q A. 65—W. ruffed with 4A.

66—W. led to South's Q A. 67—W. ruffed with 4A.

68—W. led to South's Q A. 69—W. ruffed with 4A.

RUSSIA AGREES TO MEETING

Preliminary Talks To Draw Up Big Four Agenda

Discussions To Be Confined To Issue Of Germany

Moscow Radio has made known the details of the Soviet reply to the identical notes of the United States, Britain and France on the agenda of a proposed meeting of the "Big Four" Foreign Ministers.

The Radio said the Russian note stated that the proposed meeting should be held in Moscow, Paris or London, but not in New York.

The note denied Western allegations of the rearmament of East Germany, describing them as inventions from beginning to end and in no way corresponding to reality.

According to Moscow Radio the note said that the position of the Soviet Union on the subject of all-German elections, was well known.

The note claimed that from the facts published it was patent that the three Western Powers would organise in Western Germany a regular German army.

The note said, "While continuing to consider that the question of the demilitarisation of Germany is the most important for the purpose of securing international peace and security, affecting the vital interests of the peoples of Europe and first and foremost those who had suffered as a result of aggression, the Soviet Government is agreeable to discuss other problems, too, connected with Germany, which are in conformity with the proposals made in the note of Nov. 3 on the position of the Soviet Government and with the Prague declaration of the eight (Comin-form) Governments".

The note further said that the Soviet Government did not object to the proposal to convene a preliminary conference of the representatives of France, the U.S.A., Great Britain and the U.S.S.R. to enable the drawing up of an agenda for the session of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

"It stands to reason that the examination of the problems which have to be discussed by the session of the four Foreign Ministers itself will not constitute the task of such a preliminary discussion," the note added.

EUROPE AS VENUE

"As to the place where the preliminary conference is convened, the Soviet Government proposes to convene the conference not in New York, but in Moscow, Paris or London, since the holding of such a conference in one of the above-mentioned capitals without doubt represents a practical convenience for the majority of those taking part," the Soviet note continued.

"The assertion of the Government of France that the proposals set forth in the Prague statement cannot serve as a basis for a positive solution of the German problem arouses legitimate perplexity in as much as this assertion was made before these proposals were subjected to examination by the four Powers.

"The assertions in the French note alleging that these proposals were rejected by the majority of the German people are, to say the least, unsubstantiated and do not at all correspond to the real state of affairs.

"At any rate, it is not difficult to be convinced that the proposals of the Prague conference met with great sympathy among broad circles of the German population of Western Germany.

"As to the remark in regard to the letter of the High Commissioners addressed to the Chairman of the Soviet Control Commission, contained in the French note on holding German general elections, the given question was a subject of frequent discussion between the Governments of the four powers, and the Soviet Government's stand on that question is well known.

"It can be seen from the published data the Governments

of the United States, Great Britain and France are creating a regular German army in Western Germany, not just forming some sort of police detachments — as the Foreign Ministers of the three Western Powers have stated officially — but whole divisions."

The Russian reply further said that the note of the French Government of Dec. 22 provided reason to think that it agreed with the proposal of the Soviet Government as regards a joint examination by the four Powers of the question of the demilitarisation of Germany.

"The Soviet Government accords great importance to this, in as much as the realisation of the demilitarisation of Germany was not only provided for by the Potsdam Agreement of the United States, the U.S.S.R., Great Britain and France, but remains the most important condition for ensuring peace and security in Europe, and also corresponds to the national interests of the German people itself," the Russian reply went on.

"It is known to the world, however, that of late it is precisely the Governments of the United States, of Great Britain and France which are taking various measures for the re-birth of a regular German army and for the restoration of war industry in Western Germany, and have already been conducting official negotiations on these problems with the Adenauer Government, which reflects the striving of certain aggressive circles to place the peoples of Europe before a fait accompli."

Such actions by the Western Governments created a serious difficulty in the solution of all problems which had to be discussed by the Council of Foreign Ministers, "the convening of which is being, for some reason, delayed indefinitely," the Russian note concluded. —Reuter.

BRITISH ACTION

London, Jan. 2. Russia's latest note to the Western Powers on the subject of four-power talks will be discussed by the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference beginning here on Thursday, informed sources said tonight.

These sources expected no British move to reply to the Soviet note until Britain had discussed it with the other Commonwealth nations as well as the United States and France.

The subjects will presumably be raised at the conference under the heads dealing with British commitments in Europe and her policy towards the Soviet Union.

Another point of interest to the whole Commonwealth in the proposals for new direct talks with Russia is whether Far Eastern subjects should be included in such discussions and, if so, at what stage.

Four Commonwealth countries — Britain, India, Pakistan and Ceylon — have recognised the Peking Government of China, while the other Commonwealth countries have not.

London, Jan. 2.

A large part of the Commonwealth talks, especially on Far Eastern affairs, will, observers believed, inevitably turn to the attitude to be taken towards China.

Canada, it is expected, will try to play the role of an interpreter between the views of the United States and those of the Commonwealth powers who have recognised Peking.

India's view, as is well-known, has been that recognition of the Peking Government and the admission of its representatives to the United Nations is the key to the solution of the international crisis.

Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, India's Prime Minister, is expected to press this point again at the London talks. —Reuter.

BRITISH OPTIMISM

London, Jan. 2. American officials have already expressed disappointment at the Soviet note, believing it does not indicate any genuine desire on the part of the Russians for a settlement.

Both Britain and France tried to be more optimistic. After Russian publication of the Kremlin's reply, British officials admitted it showed reluctance to discuss anything except Germany. British officials gave the "highest marks for incomprehensibility" to a paragraph early in the Soviet note which seemed to indicate the Russians might want to expand the Council to include China or at least to discuss the Council's competence and composition.

"In making this proposal," the Soviet reply said, referring to its Nov. 3 proposal for a conference on Germany only, "the Soviet Government proceeded not merely from the necessity of holding a just conference of the Four Ministers with the sole purpose of consulting on serious questions, but from the necessity of convening precisely the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to examine the question pertaining to competence of the Council of Foreign Ministers composed as above (U.S., Britain, France and Russia). —United Press.

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Delegation To Approach Nehru

Geneva, Jan. 2. World Federationists from some 47 countries, who have been meeting here since Saturday to plan a World Government, are sending a delegation to Geneva Airport to meet Mr Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, when he passes through tomorrow morning on his way to the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference in London.

Mr Nehru's plane makes a 30-minute halt here. The delegation will attempt to secure the Indian Prime Minister's support to their plan for a World Parliament.

A World Executive and a World Judiciary to dispense world law are also included in the plan.

The delegation will include Mr Fiske Farmer, of Tennessee, Mr Ivo Ipa, of Nigeria, and Madame Tibaldi Chiesa, an Italian deputy. —Reuter.



THIS IS HOW SHE DID IT.—Mary Lois Thornhill of Winter Haven, Fla., is shown skimming gracefully over the water at Cypress Gardens. Mary Lois won the crown of the Junior Girls World's Champion water skier at the International Water Ski Tournament, and here she demonstrates some of her winning skill.

Minister Dodges Awkward Query

London, Jan. 2.

Mr Maurice Webb, Food Minister, today sidestepped a question put to him by a school-girl who wanted to know why it was that America, with such great resources, insisted on selling food to under-developed countries at prices they could not afford to pay.

"That," Mr Webb replied to Janet Lawrence of Selhurst School, Croydon, "is a very tempting question. But you would not like me to lose my job, would you? I can only tell you, you had better address that question to President Truman. I am not going to answer it."

Mr Webb was addressing a meeting composed mainly of school children assembled in a "Youth Parliament" organised by the Council for Education in World Citizenship.

Mr Webb warned Britons against taking food supplies "too much for granted" in the coming years.

"Hunger, like peace, is indivisible. There is no escape for any of us from hunger in the world," he added.

The British had to consider not only the supplies of meat at their butchers but also the supplies of rice, maize and other basic foods for the many millions in under-developed parts of the world, he said.

The world food problem today was very largely one of increasing food production in these under-developed countries, Mr Webb continued.

It could only be solved by providing technical skill and capital equipment to help these nations solve their own problems by producing more food of their own.

The Far East was really the "hot spot" in the present world situation.

"How much we could do for the settlement of the Far East if we could step up the rice yield in Burma and Thailand and rice and wheat in India," Mr Webb declared. —Reuter.

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